

POPULATION ANALYSIS METHODOLOGY

The population analysis component of the VATSP was completed in May 2001. The analysis calculated affected population for three drive time intervals. The intervals were:

- > 45 minutes from a commercial service airport.
- > 30 minutes from a general aviation airport
- > 45 minutes from a commercial airport OR 30 minutes from a general aviation airport

Phase 1 - Data Acquisition.

Drive Time Contours – Street network files for the Commonwealth of Virginia were obtained from Environmental Systems Research Institute (ESRI) U.S. Street Database Files. Each road segment was assigned a speed limit based on size and road type. Utilizing this information, a time per road segment calculator was created. The files were then processed through ESRI's Network Analyst and subsequent polygons were created that displayed driving distances based on time. Polygons were created for the three drive time intervals defined above.

Population Data – Year 2000 and 2010 population data was collected for the Commonwealth of Virginia at the Census Block Group Level. The provider of the demographic data, Applied Geographic Solutions, has been used in previous HNTB Corp. population analysis studies including the Potomac TRACON EIS and the Roanoke Airport Noise Exposure Map.

Geographic Data – Census Block geography files for the Commonwealth of Virginia were obtained from ESRI Data and Maps. These files provide comprehensive statewide polygons with an underlying table structure similar to the Applied Geographic Solutions (AGS) Block Group projections. The similarity in the two file structures allows for relationships to be created and for the demographic data to be attached to the geographic files as attributes.

Phase 2 - Analysis

The population analysis component of the VATSP was conducted in a step process. This process allows for streamlining and consistency between the three drive time intervals.

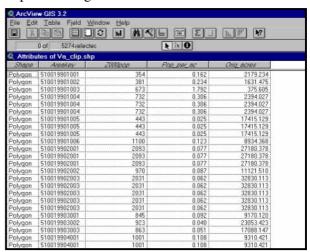
The steps were:

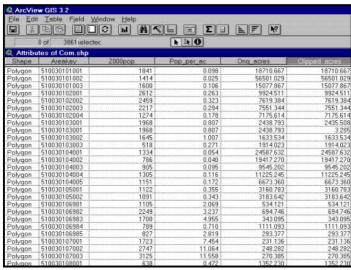
- > Calculation of population per acre at block group level to create a population multiplier.
- Clipping drive time contours into block groups and subsequent calculation of acreage for each clipped Block Group.
- Multiplying clipped Block Group acreage by population multiplier to derive total affected population. Subsequent division of total affected population into total state population to derive percentage of state population within the drive time interval.

The step process is defined below. The analysis was completed using ESRI's ArcView software.

Step 1 – Calculation of population per acre.

The Applied Geographic Solutions 2000 Census Block Group projections are joined to ESRI's Block Group geography. Total acreage is then calculated for each Block Group record. The Block Group total population for each record is then divided into the Block Group acreage for each record to derive a population per acre multiplier for each Block Group.



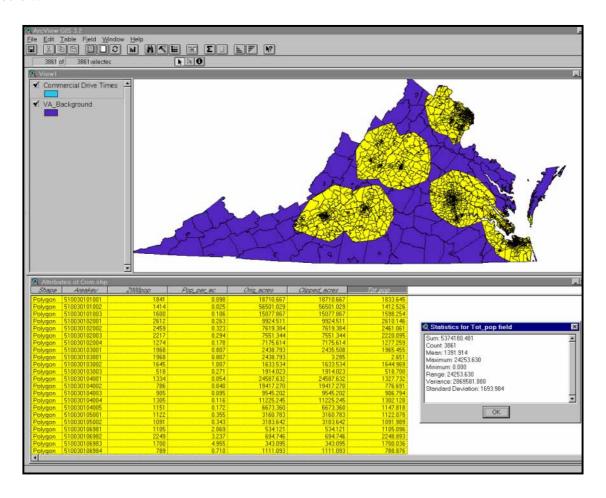


Step 2 – Clipping Drive Time Contours into Block Groups.

The drive time contours are clipped into the Census Block files and a resultant clipped Block Groups file is created. Acreage is recalculated for the clipped block groups.

Step 3 – Multiplying clipped Block Group acreage by the population multiplier.

The acreage for the clipped block groups is multiplied by the population per acre multiplier. A subsequent resultant affected population total is derived. The analysis for commercial airport drive times in shown below.



Phase 3 - Results

The results of the three drive time intervals are shown below. 2000 and 2010 are the study years for the analysis.

2000 Population Analysis

Virginia Total 2000 Population = 6,928,327

Virginia Total 2000 Population within 45 minutes of a commercial airport = 5,374,180 or 77.57%

Virginia Total 2000 Population within 30 minutes of a general aviation airport = 5,541,939 or 79.99%

Virginia Total 2000 Population within 45 minutes of a commercial airport or 30 minutes of a general aviation airport = 6,732,945 or 97.18%

2010 Population Analysis

Virginia Total 2010 Population = 7,659,065

Virginia Total 2010 Population within 45 minutes of a commercial airport = 5,992,471 or 78.24%

Virginia Total 2010 Population within 30 minutes of a general aviation airport = 6,173,063 or 79.99%

Virginia Total 2000 Population within 45 minutes of a commercial airport or 30 minutes of a general aviation airport = 7,453,580 or 97.18%